



Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

8th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a pleasure to welcome everyone back and I would like to thank our students for their positivity and enthusiasm! I have delivered, expectation assemblies this week alongside Mrs Nowell and Mrs Comiskey, where we have explained changes to the school building, a refresher on our behaviour expectations but crucially, a recipe for success that our most successful students follow.

Outstanding Results!

I would like to share just how proud we all are of our wonderful Year 11 and 13 students! It's the first year where grades and exams are almost to pre-pandemic expectations and they have done exceptionally well! We have the **highest attainment in Leeds at A Level for the second year running** and 69% of all grades were a B or better which is exceptional.

Our current information shows that at GCSE our students performed on average nearly a grade better than national, it will probably be a record year for progress!

Hot Weather

During the hot weather we have had jumpers off this week. We do make this decision based upon forecasts on the day so students must bring their jumpers on Monday as it may be jumpers on. We always advise that students should bring a good sized water bottle and fill up during break, lunch and lesson changeover. Students are not allowed out of class to fill water bottles.

Lost Property

All of next week students will get a chance to look through our lost property to reclaim items that were

misplaced last year.

The Hall will be open all week and any remaining items will be going to support charities with school uniform – we also keep some back to support those families with financial difficulties.

Positive Behaviour Policy and Changes to Systems

There have been some changes to some rules around detentions and Inclusions.

Please do read through this. Click on this link: www.horsforthschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Positive-Behaviour-Policy-2023-2024.pdf

Specific things to highlight are:

- We hold detentions on every night of the week this year, you will be notified in the planner and with 24 hours' notice.
- 5 Detentions in a half term will equate to a day in inclusion.
- Students that are in a toilet cubicle with another student will be issued a detention. We cannot permit or allow more than 1 student in a cubicle for safeguarding reasons and this is really just not appropriate.

School Timetables and Option choices

All students have received their new school timetable. We strongly suggest that they **do not transfer** these into their planner until they have been through one full 2-week cycle of their timetable in case of any changes. If there are any issues with a student's timetable they should firstly speak to their form tutor. If parents/carers need to contact school regarding timetables or changes to option choices (Students in Year 9, 10 or 12 only) then they should email info@horsforthschool.org and mark the email **FAO Mrs Wright** who will deal with your query for you. Please be aware that the deadline for option changes is Friday 29 September. Changes can only be made after this time in exceptional circumstances and can only done so in agreement with Mrs Wright and relevant Subject Leaders.

Please remember that parents/carers can also see timetables (as well as behaviour, attendance and progress data) throughout the year using the Parent Sims App - if you need any additional support with accessing this App, please email the Data Support Team in school.

Sims Parent App

The SIMS Parent app is a secure online service designed to provide a convenient way for sharing information with parents. This clear and easy-to-use app will enable you to see accessible information about your child in real time, to help support them in their learning. You can view timetables and term dates, attendance and homework, achievement points and detention information, and termly progress review reports. You can also check and amend the personal data in the Data Collection tile, removing the need to email the school with changes to

address, phone number or email address of contacts. Look out for an email from noreply@sims.co.uk with your log-in details very soon. The joining process is very simple, but you can email us at ParentLogons@horsforthschool.org if you have any queries.

Even though it has been hot and stuffy it's been a wonderfully positive start to the term. Thank you, as always, for your support ensuring students are properly equipped and in the correct uniform, student work ethic and enthusiasm has been excellent this week.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher